

DESCRIPTION OF TRAILS

- 1. MODERATE/RUGGED — .75 mile. Begins at Devil's Punchbowl, lower portion travel through ravine creekbed to Silver Cascade Waterfalls. This portion involves steps and hiking creekbed. Upper trail portion begins at steps from ravine and goes to Inspiration and Prospect Points.
- 2. RUGGED/VERY RUGGED — 1.25 miles. Begins at trail to Lover's Leap with views of Sugar Creek, upland woods, and ravines. The lower portion goes down Steamboat Rock stairs and continues up Pearl Ravine stream-bed. This portion may be impassable during high water.
- 4. MODERATE/RUGGED — .625 mile. Begins at west end of large parking lot with steep climbs through Frisz Ravine with tall beech, oak and tulip trees. This section uses streambed with steps and ladders and is rated rugged. Portions may be impassable during high water.
- 5. MODERATE/RUGGED — .75 mile. Begins at west end of large parking lot. Upper portion of trail overlooks Frisz and Kintz Ravines and involves many steps. Lower portion uses streambed of Kintz Ravine with steps and ladder. Portions of trail may be impassable during high water.
- 6. EASY — .5 mile. Begins at pond and travels along Red Fox Ravine.
- 7. RUGGED — .875 mile. Begins at west end of large parking lot travels through stand of mature trees and Kickapoo Ravine. Trail is a loop and does have steep climbs and one section uses streambed as trail. Portions may be impassable.
- 8. RUGGED — .75 mile. Begins off of Trail 7 and goes through narrow flood plain (may be impassable during high water) and through upland forest. Travels through Shawnee Canyon streambed and along Sugar Creek. Hikers must return by Trail 7.
- 9. EASY — .5 mile. Begins at pond, through wooded and open areas to Youth Tent and Campground Road.
- 10.MODERATE — 1.5 miles. Begins at Dell Shelter, leads through secessional vegetation and second growth timber to State Road 234 and Pine Hill Nature Preserve.

MODERATE — 2.5 miles. Back-Pack Trail begins at west end of parking lot and extends 2½ miles through relatively flat terrain and wooded area to the back-pack camp. Note that the back-pack camp is closed down from November 1st through March.

PLEASE STAY ON MARKED TRAILS!

ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

**CAMPING** — Class B campground equipped with flush toilets, hot water and showers; no modern hookups; occupancy limited to two (2) weeks. Reservations are available through the Central Reservation System.

• Backpack and canoe camping is seasonal. No reservations are required, it is “first-come first-serve”. Inquire at gatehouse or park office.

**FISHING** — Bass, bluegill, etc. State license required.

**HIKING** — Approximately 15 miles of easy-to-rugged trails.

**INTERPRETIVE NATURALIST SERVICE** — Seasonal. Explore the world of natural resources while enjoying interpretive and recreational programs. Program schedules are available on the website at [www.IN.gov/dnr/parklake/interpretiveservices/](http://www.IN.gov/dnr/parklake/interpretiveservices/) or call (765) 597-2654.

**PICNIC AREAS** — Tables, grills, toilet facilities, playground equipment, playfields and shelters. Reservations for shelters are available through the Central Reservation System.

**Deer's Mill Covered Bridge** area located on State Road 234 is maintained as a public access to Sugar Creek for canoeists. Due to limited parking and congestion, vehicles parked in unauthorized spaces or left after 11:00 PM are subject to tow-away at owner's expense.

SWIMMING PROHIBITED

Sugar Creek is extremely hazardous!

Please let wild animals remain wild. Feeding deer is prohibited. Feeding of all wild animals can result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on handouts become a nuisance to park visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock up all food and coolers inside cars or campers.

THIS IS YOUR PARK

All visitors are expected to observe the following rules which are designed to fulfill the purpose for which state parks were established, namely, to preserve a primitive landscape in its natural condition for the use and enjoyment of the people.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Do not injure or damage any structure, rock, tree, flower, bird or wild animal within the Park. Do NOT gather limbs, brush or trees (either dead or alive) for firewood! It MUST be allowed to remain to rebuild the natural humus.
- Any firearm, BB gun, air gun, CO<sub>2</sub> gun, bow and arrow, or spear gun in possession in a state park must be unloaded or un-nocked and stored in a case or locked within a vehicle except when participating in an activity authorized by written permit.
- Dogs and cats must be kept on a leash no longer than six feet and attended at all times.
- There shall be no vending or advertising without permission of the Department of Natural Resources.
- Camping is permitted only in the campground. Youth groups must be under adult supervision.
- Fires shall be built only in places provided.
- Please comply with the Carry In/Carry Out trash policy in all day use areas. Overnight guests must put waste in receptacles provided for that purpose.
- Motorists will observe speed limits as posted, and park in designated areas.
- Swimming is limited to such places and times as designated by the Department of Natural Resources.
- Drinking water should be taken only from pumps, hydrants or fountains provided for that purpose. This water is tested regularly for purity.
- Report lost or found articles to the park office.
- All motorized vehicles must remain on paved roadways. Snowmobiles and off road vehicles are prohibited.
- Use of metal detectors prohibited.
- Park closes from 11:00 PM until 7:00 AM, and no one is allowed in the park, except for campers using their sites between these hours..

For a complete list of rules and regulations inquire at park office.

CENTRAL RESERVATION SYSTEMS


Reservations for all types of camping, family cabins, and shelters at state parks, reservoirs and forests can be made by going online or use the toll free number.

[www.camp.IN.gov](http://www.camp.IN.gov)  
**1-866-6campIN**  
(1-866-622-6746)



Reservations for the Indiana State Park Inns and Inn-operated cabins can be made by going online or use the toll free number.

[www.indianainns.com](http://www.indianainns.com)  
**1-877-lodges1**  
(1-877-563-4371)



Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Write: Shades State Park  
Route 1 Box 72  
Waveland, Indiana 47989  
Call: (765) 435-2810

**DNR**  
Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
[www.IN.gov/dnr](http://www.IN.gov/dnr)


SPECIAL NOTE

Receipts from admission and service charges are used to help defray the operation and maintenance costs of the park. List of fees available in the park office.

The programs, services, facilities, and activities of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources are available to everyone. DNR prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information please write to: Department of Natural Resources, Executive Office, 402 W. Washington St., Rm. W256, Indianapolis, IN 46204, (317) 232-4020.

INDIANA

SHADES STATE PARK



Long before the first settlers came to the area of Shades State Park, the American Indians lived among the virgin forest with steep ravines and cliff areas along Sugar Creek. Legends of the area claim that a rather large Piankeshaw village, a component of the diversified Miami tribe, lived on what is now park land. Legend also implies that a decisive Indian battle was supposedly fought by 600 warriors; the losing tribe having only five of the twelve survivors. Although this battle is only legend, one may be assured that the American Indians and French Voyagers played an important role in the rich history leading to the settlement of Indiana. The first settlers came to this area around the late 1820's after the Miami tribe ceded the area to the federal government in 1818. The shallow soils and broken topography of the lands which border Sugar Creek provided little enticement to farmers, thus the majority of the

forests escaped destruction. One story of the area attributes the illusion of deep shadows beneath the nearly unbroken canopy of these forests and the eerie feeling projected by the "black forest" as the reason for the early name, "The Shades of Death." Other people, however, say the name resulted due to the war-like Indians who occupied this natural stronghold along Sugar Creek and the legend of an early settler being killed. Another story which contributed to the gloomy name claimed that a young settler's wife buried an ax in her wicked husband's head. Finally the "Shades of Death" being considered unsavory, was dropped to simply "The Shades." These examples of the legends and folklore of the area are often topics for campfires at naturalist activities.

The results of a government survey of 1815 noted as landmarks a series of natural springs in a ravine area which played an important part in the history of Shades. In 1886, the Garland Dells Mineral Springs Association was organized and land was purchased and rented to develop a health resort and recreation area named "The Shades." In 1887 a forty-room inn was built on the location of the shelter house near Devil's Punchbowl (this inn has since been razed because of fire damage and maintenance costs). The person who had been named the "Father of Shades," Joseph W. Frisz, purchased stock in the Dells Mineral Springs Association in 1909 and gained complete control in 1916 of this Association. Mr. Frisz safe-guarded the natural areas and dense forests, while purchasing additional tracts of land, until the late 1930's. Shades scenic park comprised 2,200 acres. The park boasted the scenic inn set in a grove of mature oak trees, hiking trails, swimming, fishing and natural springwater. In early 1947, the park was purchased from Mr. Frisz's heirs by a holding company until a public subscription campaign ("Save the Shades") could raise the purchase money. Shades became the 15th state park and was hence saved from the timber cutters who would have used the majority of the oak timber for whisky barrels.